

action is respectfully requested.

Regarding Claims 1-5, rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,978,773, Hudetz et al. (hereinafter *Hudetz*), in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,081,629, Browning (hereinafter *Browning*), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

Applicants' present inventive concept, as defined by the amended claims, is directed toward a system for providing a device external to the user's computer that will generate a signal that is designated as being input for the browser. However, this particular input is not compatible with the set of available browser inputs to the computer. To facilitate this, an interface device is provided for converting this non-browser input to a simulated browser input. For example, as set forth in the specification, the keyboard port is utilized to receive the output of the scanner. However, the scanner output is incompatible with both the format of the keyboard input and also with the values input thereto. The interface device therefore converts the output of the scanner to an ANSI coded input, these codes being compatible to those normally put out by a keyboard.

As another example, consider a conventional scanner that is USB compatible. The scanner is set up as a USB device and therefore outputs a digital stream from the device itself. This therefore comprises a serial data stream that is input to the computer. In the computer, software can be provided for allowing this to be utilized as a control input to the browser to allow values to be input thereto; however, it is noted that the internal software handling of the USB data and the recognition of the fact that the data is from a scanner automatically makes this USB compatible scanner a browser input and not a "non-browser" input. It is only when an interface device is required to convert the output of a peripheral device to a different output, i.e., that of a keyboard, that a simulated browser input will be required. As such, when the scanner in Applicant's device is utilized, the output is converted to that associated with a keyboard such that, from the browser's perspective, the input is being received from the keyboard.

The *Hudetz* reference was cited by the Examiner to be a reference that can be combined with the *Browning* reference. The Examiner specifically stated that *Hudetz* provides a browser application that receives predetermined browser inputs and non-browser inputs. The Examiner specifically referred to Col. 3, line 16 - Col. 4, line 30 to support the term "non-browser input." However, although not disclosed in detail, the scanner itself is illustrated as being a standard input to the computer and, as such, Applicants contend that this is within the set of browser inputs for which the application is designed to interface. There is no conversion mechanism that utilizes the output of the scanner with a converter to simulate the output of another peripheral device, i.e., that of a keyboard. As such, *Hudetz* sets forth no disclosure where a non-browser input is converted to simulate a browser input, as set forth in Applicant's amended claims.

The Examiner has utilized *Browning* to cure the deficiencies in *Hudetz*. However, in *Browning*, the scanner is an integral part of the device and, as such, the scanner input is contained within the set of browser inputs. There is no interface device for converting the output thereof to simulate another browser input.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that neither *Browning* nor *Hudetz*, taken singularly or in combination, anticipate or obviate Applicants' present inventive concept, as defined by the amended claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection with respect to the amended claims.

Applicants have added new Claims 6 and 7, which are dependent claims which add no new matter.

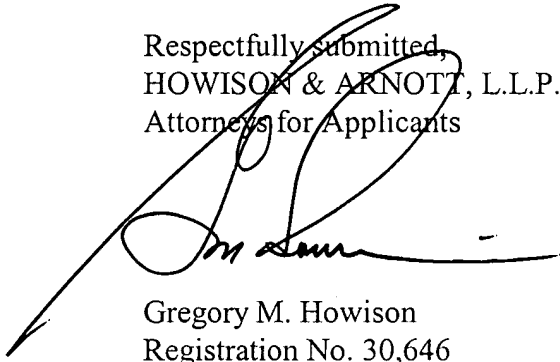
Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,735 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

S/N 09/382,373

Atty. Dkt. No. PHLY-24,735

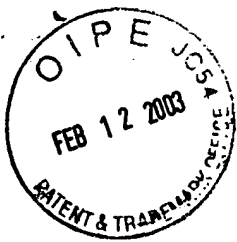
Respectfully submitted,
HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory M. Howison', is written over the typed name and firm information.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Three times Amended) A method for launching a web browser application on a user's computer, comprising the steps of:

providing a browser application on the user's computer that is launchable in response to predetermined browser inputs being received by the user's computer, which predetermined browser inputs comprise a set of user computer inputs that are operable to be interfaced to computer peripherals;

providing a non-browser input that is not a portion of the set of predetermined browser inputs for generating an input signal that is not part of the set of computer inputs;

converting the non-browser input in an interface device to simulate as a simulated browser input to the user's computer one or more of the predetermined browser inputs as a simulated browser input to the user's computer; and

launching the web browser on the user's computer over a connection established with this simulated browser input and, in response [therefore] thereto, accessing information on a network.

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